

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 19762 071836Z

63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8522

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T LONDON 19762

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: UNFICYP-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP

REF: (A) LONDON 19305 (B) STATE 296239

(C) NICOSIA 3870 (D) NICOSIA 3862

L. DURING CONTINUING EMBASSY CONSULTATION ON CYPRUS WITH FCO, ITS CYPRUS DESK OFFICER FORT HAS SHOWED US DECEMBER 6 BRIEFING PAPER FOR FCO MINISTER OF STATE OWEN'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO CYPRUS. PAPER STATES UK POLICY ON UNFICYP-TURKISH EXCHANGES AS FOLLOWS:

"SINCE WE ARE NOT INVOLVED AS A GOVERNMENT AS SUCH, BUT MERELY AS A MEMBER OF THE UN FORCE, WE CANNOT BECOME TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE EXCHANGES BETWEEN UNFICYP AND THE TURKS." THIS APPEARS TO ALIGN UK POLICY WITH THAT OF US SET FORTH IN REFTELS (B) AND (C). AT THE SAME TIME, FCO HAS SOUGHT AND OBTAINED MORE DETAILS OF UNFICYP'S OPERATIONS FROM UN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK. LETTER FROM LOGAN IN UK MISSION TO UN TO FORT SETS FORTH SOME DETAILS OF UNFICYP RATIONALE FOR ITS ACTIVITIES. LETTER QUOTES UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL AS EXPLAINING THAT, IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC OR WRITTEN AGREEMENT ON RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES IN ABL, UNFICYP FOLLOWS UN

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SECRET

PAGE 02 LONDON 19762 071836Z

PRACTISE DEVELOPED ELSEWHERE OVER PAST 30 YEARS, AND

RELIES ON HAGUE CONVENTION WHICH INCLUDES A PROVISION THAT PROPERTY RIGHTS REMAIN INTACT BEYOND CEASE-FIRE LINE. LETTER, WHICH ALSO ANALYZES DENKTASH-DE CUELLAR JULY CORRESPONDENCE, POUCHED TO DEPT AND NICOSIA. FORT SPECIFIED THAT WE SHOULD MAKE NO REFERENCE TO LOGAN LETTER OUTSIDE US-UK CHANNELS.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH FORT DECEMBER 7 EMBOFF NOTED GORGE ASSUMPTION (REPORTED IN NICOSIA 3862) THAT TURKS DO NOT WANT PROCES-VERBAL PROBLEM TO IMPEDE UNFICYP MANDATE RENEWAL. FORT COMMENTED THAT NEITHER GREEK CYPRIOTS NOR TURKS WANT UNFICYP TO LEAVE. IF IT LEFT TOMORROW, IT WOULD BE MORE DAMAGING TO GREEK CYPRIOT INTERESTS, BUT TURKS WOULD RECEIVE THE BLAME, WHICH THEY DO NOT WANT. TURKS DO NOT WANT A CRITICAL REPORT ON THE TURKISH-UNFICYP CONFRONTATION TO GO TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. FORT CONTINUED THAT FCO FEELS THAT THE TURKS ARE SHOWING SIGNS OF UNEASINESS ABOUT THEIR POSITION IN CYPRUS. THE FCO DOES NOT EXPECT THIS UNEASINESS TO RESULT IN ANY BREAKTHROUGH ON NEGOTIATIONS, BUT NOTES THAT IT HAS LED ANKARA TO REIN IN ITS LOCAL COMMANDER ON THE UNFICYP ISSUE. ALTHOUGH TURKS ARE NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO PRESSURE, THEY WOULD PREFER TO AVOID CRITICISM.

3. FORT CONFIRMED THAT FCO HAD SENT INSTRUCTIONS TO BRITISH EMBASSY IN ANKARA TO TRY TO PERSUADE THE TURKS TO AGREE TO A SIGNATURE FORMULA FOR THE PROCES-VERBAL WHICH WOULD DISPENSE WITH THE WORD "PRESIDENT" IN FRONT OF DENKTASH'S NAME IF THIS WOULD ENABLE THE PROCES-VERBAL TO BE SIGNED (LONDON 19482).

ARMSTRONG

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